

Message Text

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TAGS: ENRG, TECH, PARM, GW, BR

SUBJECT: GERMAN PRESS REPORTS: FRG-BRAZIL NUCLEAR
AGREEMENT

REF: BONN 2839

1. SUMMARY: GERMAN PRESS COVERAGE HAS RETURNED TO ITS ORIGINAL, HIGH VOLUME COVERAGE OF SUBJECT TOPIC FOLLOWING THE INITIAL BRIEF COMMENTS ABOUT THE RESULTS OF THE FORMAL GERMAN-AMERICAN CONSULTATIONS (REFTEL). MOST NEWSPAPERS CARRY EXTENSIVE REPORTS REPEATING PREVIOUS ANALYSES AND ASSESSMENTS OF THE IMPACT A RENOUNCIATION OF THE FRG-BRAZIL AGREEMENT WOULD HAVE ON THE GERMAN ECONOMY. MOST COMMENT RECOGNIZES THAT USG HAS NO COMMERCIAL MOTIVATIONS, THAT WE SEEK DELAY AND THAT WE OPPOSE ONLY THE REPROCESSING AND ENRICHMENT FACILITIES. THERE SEEMS TO BE NO NEW INFORMATION FROM OFFICIAL FRG SOURCES BUT ONE COMMON THEME DOES RUN THROUGH THESE MEDIA ACCOUNTS -- SOME GERMAN DISAPPOINTMENT THAT THE USG DID NOT PRESENT A WIDE RANGE OF ALTERNATIVE SOLUTIONS TO THE PROBLEM. END SUMMARY.

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2. IN FULL PAGE ARTICLE, "DIE WELT" EMPHASIZES THAT THE IMPORTANCE OF THE BRAZILIAN NUCLEAR DEAL GOES FAR BEYOND IMMEDIATE PROFIT FOR THE GERMAN NUCLEAR INDUSTRY BECAUSE IT COULD SERVE AS A TEST FOR GERMAN COMPETITIVENESS IN THE EXPORT OF ADVANCED TECHNOLOGIES. ANY ALTERATION

OF THE PROVISIONS OF THE AGREEMENT WOULD MOST CERTAINLY SHATTER GERMANY'S CREDIBILITY. DIE WELT SUSPECTS THAT THE DECISION OF THE GERMAN GOVERNMENT WILL BE MADE IN THE NEAR FUTURE, BECAUSE IT HAS PROMISED BRAZIL A DECISION BEFORE THE END OF FEBRUARY ABOUT THE EXPORT LICENSES FOR THE BLUE PRINTS FOR THE ENRICHMENT AND REPROCESSING PILOT PLANTS. THIS DECISION WILL CLEARLY REVEAL THE INTENTION OF THE GERMAN GOVERNMENT.

3. "FRANKFURTER ALLGEMEINE ZEITUNG" - FAZ REPORTS THAT STATE SECRETARY HERMES IS TO APPEAR IN A CABINET MEETING ON FEB. 16 TO EXPLAIN THE RESULTS OF HIS WASHINGTON CONSULTATIONS. ACCORDING TO FAZ SOURCES, CHANCELOER SCHMIDT WILL INFORM THE CABINET THAT ANY DISTURBANCE OF THE GERMAN-AMERICAN RELATIONSHIP MUST BE AVOIDED. ON THE OTHER HAND THE GOVERNMENT COULD NOT PERMIT THE GERMAN NUCLEAR INDUSTRY TO BE FORCED OUT OF THE EXPORT BUSINESS BECAUSE OF UNJUSTIFIED DISTRUST. FAZ OBSERVES THAT THE GOVERNMENT POSITION HAS BEEN STRENGTHENED BY A STATEMENT BY THE CSU SPOKESMAN FOR FOREIGN POLICY THAT HIS PARTY SUPPORTS EVERY EFFORT BY THE GOVERNMENT TO FULFILL ALL COMMITMENTS OF THE AGREEMENT.

4. THE CDU PARTY TABLED THE FOLLOWING QUESTION IN THE PARLIAMENT: IS IT TRUE THAT THE GERMAN-BRAZILIAN NUCLEAR AGREEMENT PROVIDES FOR LONG TERM UNCLASSIFIED

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ASSURANCE OF SOME 250 000 JOBS AND WHAT DOES THE GOVERNMENT PLAN TO DO TO GUARANTEE THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE AGREEMENT? THE GOVERNMENT RESPONDED THAT ABOUT 20000 HIGHLY-QUALIFIED JOBS PER YEAR ARE INVOLVED OVER THE 15 YEAR TERM OF THE AGREEMENT. THERE WAS NO RESPONSE TO THE SECOND PART OF THE QUESTION
STOESSEL

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